

## HOMELAND MINUTES



*"Building Canada – Small Homes – 1946"*  
Victory Home  
[www.internationalmetropolis.com/](http://www.internationalmetropolis.com/)



*Going Green "Victory" Home*  
[www.nowhouseproject.com](http://www.nowhouseproject.com)

WWII Houses  
Have Something  
to Say: NOW!

The cries of the  
Baby Boomers born  
to War Brides and  
returning Canadian  
veterans have long  
ceased to echo in  
the halls of approxi-  
mately one million  
WWII homes still  
standing. Thanks to  
Lorraine Gauthier  
and Alex Quito of a

design company called Work Worth Doing, there are new cries coming out of these houses and they are all about retrofitting for energy conservation. Their trademarked "Now House" design was one of 12 winning designs for CMHC's Equilibrium Sustainable Housing Demonstration Initiative and their first model retrofit went on view September 10, 2008, at 12 Topham Road in Toronto. Since then there have been an additional five houses in Windsor. As Ms. Gauthier stated in a 2009 presentation to the 4<sup>th</sup> Canadian Solar Buildings Conference on a slide with wartime housing dotted across a map of Canada, "Now House will start with one house, then a community of wartime houses, then a million houses across the country." The award-winning models demonstrate near zero energy use and reduced green house gas emissions. The retrofit of 5,000 WWII houses in Toronto alone would reduce green house emissions by 27,000 tonnes annually. These WWII homes, like the WWII veterans themselves, have much to tell Canadians about values.